

Feb 4 1857.

Boston U. S. A.  
Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> 1857

My dear Mary,

I have been  
long obliged to delay writing to  
you, for the sake of writing to  
some fifty others - all friends of the  
cause to whom it was due to write  
first, for the reason that they could  
less well appreciate any delay  
and its causes. We have been suc-  
cessful - as you will see by the  
report accompanying. It was  
in a sense a great comfort  
to have your father's bust: we  
go even like the ancients - accom-  
panied by our dead whose mem-  
ories we worship, - and these  
things, when they fall short as  
resemblances, are no less a  
source of satisfaction as emblems  
of our veneration. I missed  
the gracious condescension  
in the air, & the keen des-



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crowning, made playful  
by benevolence in the expres-  
sion. Yet it is a fine work  
of art. Garrison had expected  
more than the rest of us,  
& of course was more disap-  
pointed. Our board in council  
assembled have expressed to  
you their gratitude. Our head-  
quarters are at New York, &  
where we can resolve to let  
the bust leave our head-quarters  
in Boston, it will go thither.

Our friend Pillsbury was able  
to be a door keeper in the  
house of the Lord. He is I think,  
stronger than last year. Things  
look dark enough upon the  
face of them;— as if the Nation  
was going to pieces in these  
breakers, before the sympathy  
could be got to consent to take  
to the boards or make a raft.



But the safety is in our habits,  
-- our forms of law & order, as our  
danger is in the absence of all  
reality of those things. No sooner  
shall sufficient righteousness enter  
into any state, county, town,  
parish or individual, than such  
can instantly smother themselves  
without embarrassment from  
the guilty nation at large.

The organization of each is al-  
ready complete & independent.

Like the sea-anemone, - no dis-  
sion can affect the vitality.  
The want of it only can kill  
this allentive flower. Things

look more favorable in the  
Slave-State of Missouri, where  
<sup>high state officers</sup>  
a ~~Senator~~ has obtained his elec-  
tion, not in spite of his Anti-  
Slavery, but because of it. He  
cause he announced that his  
policy would be to make Missou-  
ri a free state - to free the



interests of the hundreds of  
thousands of free inhabitants the  
preference over those of <sup>the</sup> thirty  
thousand slaveholders. I am  
small grateful with Mrs. Stone's  
testimony. What will "the Moses"  
say to her letter in "the Indepen-  
dent," in which she says of  
our French Evangelical sisters, "they  
have remembered those in bonds  
as bound with them by helping  
the Boston Anti Slavery Fair."  
You will probably see that letter  
in the Standard & Lib. I do not  
agree with her that the bible en-  
joins. We have the Bible  
It is the spirit which interprets  
aright that makes free. France  
might be all protestant & all  
Bible ridden, too, as we are,  
& yet not homogenous as we  
are. And that homogénéité is  
what screws revolutions to the  
sticking point. Neither am  
I able to give the thanks  
she does for American freedom.



I am reminded by it of what  
her father said, (The old Dr Beecher)  
when they were all upset upon  
a rough road, & one of the com-  
pany, as they were shaking themselves  
into shape, proposed that they should  
offer thanks for their remarkable  
preservation: "Speak for yourselves,  
if you please: - I am not so sure  
but I am very badly hurt."

[I could tell her this myself, with  
perfect propriety - but no body  
else must in print or viva-  
-voce. I cherish her very carefully  
even to the point of not using  
her father "to point a Moral &  
adorn a tale." I hear that  
Mr. Douglass' Miss Griffiths is  
still at her unprincipled & selfish  
work. Mrs. Stone wrote last  
winter to Mr Sturge, informing  
him that Miss Griffiths was not  
a trustworthy person, - but she  
says his impressions rather better



for that, & he did not cumulate  
the information. He dares not  
be an abolitionist, & yet he  
needs the name of one; &  
he will maintain any man  
or woman, from the the  
Calumniating Colver, to the  
dishonest Tappan, - from  
the Drunken Clapp to the  
Selfish Douglas & Griffiths, - who  
will furnish him with an  
excuse for not doing his duty  
in these premises. I am  
glad to learn, as I do from  
Lizzy in Paris, who is in  
correspondence with our  
Excellent Friend Wilson  
Armistead, how staunchly  
he sets the Griffiths square  
upon her pretences: - "I do  
not think intolerance a proper  
basis of effort." I hope to hear



doom of your improved health  
 — for hope on my part will  
 be better than its absence.  
 It is the same thing as pray-  
 er, essentially, & has efficacy.  
 Mrs. Hemans, (poets are prophets)  
 recognises it. "generous hope  
 is power." Is it not singular  
 that our Italian family  
 should have met poor dear  
 Felicia's Son, (worship of our  
 youth was she!) under the  
 same roof with them? —  
 They say he is an intelligent &  
 cultivated man. Water colour  
 Landscapes did well last month.  
 C'est à dire, I had time to  
 sell them. [I could sell —  
 Mrs. Norton's charity - children's  
 gowns if I could undertake it. —  
 though not a Chapman home,  
 and that is saying every thing.  
 I wish I could have a Fifth  
 or some other Master, for next  
 year is just to advertise, &



the poets was Milton. It is a great poem. She is  
the greatest living poet by all odds. I must state  
make the rest sell. Will you  
tell the dear Wighams that  
confections do sell. I shall  
not be able to write by this  
post, they wish to know.  
I remembered too late, a work  
of going about some acknow-  
ledgment to be made to Mr.  
Bagehot. I regret it extremely.  
Your friend is the advocate!  
Suppose it must rest very  
essentially on you. Could  
agents do anything to get subscri-  
bers? I think I could delight  
to go from door to door my-  
self in England to get them.  
I love my England. She's  
set in her ways - (set our  
N.E. people say - "a meeting -  
house aint sother") but they  
are apt to be good ways, - so  
it does not matter. Have you  
read Aurora Leigh? It is very  
Shakespearian. The vision of